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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 2800

PATENT

I hereby certify that on the date specified below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to Box RCE, Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

April 9, 2003

Ayesha S. Wilks

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Vishnu K. Agarwal	Attorney Docket No. : 501082.16 (98-0616.15)
Serial No. : 09/652,580	Group Art Unit : 2825
Filed : August 31, 2000	Examiner : Caridad M. Everhart
Title : DEVICE AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING AGAINST OXIDATION OF A CONDUCTIVE LAYER IN SAID DEVICE	

Box RCE
Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows.

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 54 and 56 as follows:

54. (Twice Amended) A method of forming a semiconductor device, comprising:
providing a first conductive layer;

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